

PSC-AR-1

8 January 1954

PROCUREMENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON
FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 1953

I. Responsibilities

The Procurement Sub-Committee was established by the Chairman, Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications under the provisions of NSCID-16, dated 7 March 1953. The Subcommittee's specific responsibilities are to insure, for the Director of Central Intelligence, the "coordination of the procurement of foreign language publications, it being understood that captured documents are excepted from this provision" (NSCID-16, par. 1)

II. Projects Completed

A. Inventory of USSR Serials

In order to provide a collection guide designed to fill in gaps of IAC holdings of Soviet periodicals and newspapers, an inventory of such serials on hand in CIA has been compiled. The inventory will serve as a reference handbook as well as identify procurement needs.

B. Report on Foreign Branch, CIA Library

This report was written to explain the facilities of the Foreign Branch, and its procurement responsibilities as a result of its consolidation with the Foreign Publications Branch, IAD, State Department.

C. Report on Centralization of Records

This paper was prepared as a study of the need and desirability of effecting a central IAC record of requirements for foreign language publications and of publications received. It will be followed by specific proposals to obtain such records.

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III. PROJECTS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED

A. Supplementary collection effort

As a result of needs for supplementing collection in Europe, particularly of scientific and technical publications, the Air Information Division is sending a special representative to Europe for 90 days about 1 February 54. The Subcommittee is arranging necessary briefings and collection guidance for this project.

B. Area Dossiers

In order to provide background information for guidance of collectors, the Subcommittee is preparing area dossiers for each Foreign Service post to include such items as book trade organization and practices, lists of bookstores with their specialties and names of personnel to contact, lists of libraries and librarians, and information concerning prices, payment methods, accounting procedures and export restrictions.

C. Union List of USSR Serials

Reference II A above, it is planned to use the CIA inventory as a checklist for other IAC agencies to use in recording their holdings. The resulting publication will be an inventory and a locator list of Soviet serials in all IAC libraries.

D. Union Catalog of USSR Monographs

In cooperation with the Reference Subcommittee plans are under way to expand CIA's Cyrillic Union Catalog to include all Soviet monographs held by IAC agencies.

E. Domestic collection

Studies are planned to examine present collecting efforts for obtaining foreign publications from domestic sources, particularly New York bookstores, and to determine the most efficient methods of exploiting the domestic market.

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F. Field Collection

Facts will be collected early in 1954 concerning all existing field collection guides and field collecting potential with a view toward effecting more coordinated requirements and more intelligent use of available field personnel.

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Chairman

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